

1 A RESOLUTION urging Congress to enact legislation granting the United States
2 Department of Agriculture jurisdiction over labeling requirements for imitation meat
3 products.

4 WHEREAS, Kentucky produces more head of beef cattle than any other state east
5 of the Mississippi River; and

6 WHEREAS, poultry is the largest revenue-generating agricultural commodity in
7 Kentucky; and

8 WHEREAS, Kentucky farmers continue to expand their production capabilities
9 with regard to poultry, beef cattle, and other livestock; and

10 WHEREAS, in recent years various business entities have worked to engineer food
11 products resembling beef, pork, chicken, and other meat products that are familiar to
12 consumers, but do not include meat harvested from real animals. These products are
13 commonly known as imitation meat, cell-cultured meat, cultured meat, or fake meat; and

14 WHEREAS, considerable concern exists that American consumers could be harmed
15 by food safety deficiencies in imitation meat products, and cell-based meat products are
16 not currently subject to stringent food safety regulations; and

17 WHEREAS, considerable concern exists that imitation meat products use product
18 descriptions and labeling that suggest or imply that imitation meat products contain actual
19 harvested meat from farmer-raised livestock or poultry, which may prevent consumers
20 from making fully-informed decisions when purchasing food; and

21 WHEREAS, many Kentucky farmers believe that new imitation meat products
22 entering the market should be clearly marked with prominently-placed labels and
23 indications that inform consumers that they are purchasing products that do not contain
24 actual harvested meat from farmer-raised livestock or poultry; and

25 WHEREAS, for decades Congress has assigned jurisdiction over food product
26 labeling requirements for meat and poultry products to the United States Department of
27 Agriculture (USDA); and

1 WHEREAS, Kentucky farmers and consumers have greater confidence in the
2 USDA's ability to oversee the development and implementation of food safety standards
3 and food product labeling standards for imitation meat products than in the abilities of
4 other federal agencies to undertake these responsibilities;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

6 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
7 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

8 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives urges the United States Congress to
9 enact legislation mandating that the USDA exercise jurisdiction over food product safety
10 and food product labeling requirements for imitation meat products.

11 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives urges the USDA to promulgate
12 administrative regulations requiring imitation meat product manufacturers to adopt
13 labeling and marketing terminology that is fully distinct from those traditional terms
14 connoting real meat products, so that consumers can readily distinguish real meat
15 products from imitation meat products or plant-based alternatives.

16 ➔Section 3. The House of Representatives urges the USDA to implement
17 requirements for cultured meat products that are blended or otherwise combined with
18 traditionally-produced meat to be clearly and prominently labeled as such, and these
19 labels should include the percentage of actual harvested meat from farmer-raised
20 livestock or poultry in such products.

21 ➔Section 4. The House of Representatives urges the USDA to ensure that any
22 cell-cultured meat products derived from livestock or poultry undergo comprehensive
23 pre-market risk assessments before being sold or offered for sale in the Commonwealth of
24 Kentucky.

25 ➔Section 5. The House of Representatives urges the USDA to be as stringent as
26 possible in combating consumer misperceptions that could impede the continued
27 prosperity of livestock and poultry producers in Kentucky and across the nation, or create

1 new risks to public health, safety, and welfare.

2 ➔Section 6. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this
3 Resolution and notification of its adoption to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the
4 United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the
5 United States Senate, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, and to
6 each member of Kentucky's delegation to the United States Congress.